

26 VESEY STREET, NEW YORK
68 DEVONSHIRE STREET, BOSTON
206 E. FOURTH STREET, CINCINNATI
RAILROAD BUILDING, DENVER

CABLE ADDRESS: CLIPBURE

CLIPPING FROM

N. Y. TRIBUNE

Date.....MAR 5 1907

1+

THE BOND-HAY TREATY.

Fishery Interests Vitaly Concerned
in Its Ratification.

St. Johns, N. F., Feb. 25 (Special).—The prospective ratification of the Bond-Hay treaty threatens to revive that difficult cause of controversy the Atlantic fisheries question, because Canada is vitally concerned in the subject of the inshore fishing rights along her maritime border and regards Newfoundland's action as unsisterly and unfair. Fifteen years ago Canada blocked the Bond-Blaine treaty on these grounds, but Great Britain, while consenting to withhold her approval temporarily, to assist Canada in trying to secure a similar covenant, refused permanently to veto the smaller colony's right to initiate independent trade conventions.

It is well understood here that if Canada can do so she will prevent the Bond-Hay treaty becoming effective, even if ratified by the United States Senate, and she has already made representations to the British Ministry with that object in view and encouraged by the knowledge that the arrangement is regarded unfavorably there because it forms so adverse a commentary upon the Chamberlain movement for interimperial preference. On the other hand, it is believed in many quarters here that the United States Senate's action in calling the treaty up is largely due to a desire to rebuke Canada for her recently proclaimed refusal to negotiate reciprocity provisions again and to demonstrate that in fishery matters, at least, the United States and Newfoundland can reach a compromise.

To understand fully how this problem affects the three countries, it may be well to give here the fishery statistics of the sections interested. The New-England fisheries exhibit the following details as a result of a canvass, or census, made by the United States Fisheries Commission in the years given below:

	1889.	1898.	1902.
Persons engaged.....	39,538	35,631	38,879
Products, pounds.....	653,170,040	893,457,906	528,949,767
Products, value.....	\$10,550,641	\$9,682,290	\$12,280,401
Vessels engaged.....	1,502	1,427	1,479
Boats engaged.....	11,348	10,557	12,021
Capital invested.....	\$20,094,794	\$19,687,036	\$19,969,031

Between 1889 and 1898 the catch declined 29.76 per cent in weight, though the value was lessened only 8.23 per cent, the increased price realized for certain fish which were becoming scarcer, like lobsters, helping to make up the deficit. Between 1898 and 1902 there was an increase of 34.43 per cent in volume and 28.83 per cent in value, and a small enlargement of the personnel and capital.

During the same years the fishery statistics for the Canadian maritime provinces are as follows:

	1889.	1898.	1902.
Persons engaged.....	42,008	47,338	51,424
Products, pounds.....	414,675,884	535,279,623	628,734,577
Products, value.....	\$12,064,606	\$13,746,521	\$14,210,466
Vessels engaged.....	798	825	933
Boats engaged.....	24,735	27,679	33,372
Capital invested.....	\$6,836,000	\$8,745,320	\$848,890

In the case of the Canadian catch it will be observed that the increase has been regular all through, and shows Canada's fishery enterprise to be free from the fluctuations which have affected that of the New-England States during the same period of fourteen years.

As for Newfoundland, her fishery statistics are not so detailed as those of her larger neighbors, and it is only possible to give a rough, approximation of the situation as compared with them from the census figures of 1891 and 1901.

	1891.	1901.
Persons engaged.....	39,876	41,405
Fisheries, pounds.....	270,000,000	343,664,321
Products, value.....	\$5,346,824	\$6,907,949
Vessels engaged.....	1,294	1,637
Boats engaged.....	21,687	26,457

NEWFOUNDLAND BAIT IMPORTANT.

The food fishes of Newfoundland are the cod, herring, halibut and lobster. Of the same fishes, plus mackerel and haddock, the value of the New-England product is about \$5,000,000, and of the Canadian about \$7,000,000. The admission of Canadian fish, therefore, under a reciprocity arrangement with the Dominion would mean that the domestic product would have to meet the competition of a quantity larger than its own and more cheaply caught, as the Canadians can fish less expensively than the Americans, while the contiguity of the maritime provinces to the Eastern States would enable their catch to be put upon the American market as advantageously as that from New-England.

Canada, too, is without the bait which is really the pivotal point in the Bond-Hay treaty. Bait for deep sea fishing the New-Englanders must have, and they can only obtain it in Newfoundland, where the French and Canadians also procure it. Without her possession of this bait and the advantages it confers, Newfoundland would be of no importance in this fishery dispute, but, as it is, she is the ruling power. Fishermen of every nationality who would ply their calling on the Grand Banks must obtain bait in her waters to do so, and it is because she has denied this privilege to the French that the collapse of their industry has come to pass, despite her having St. Pierre-Miquelon as a base of operations within easy reach of these shores, whereby more or less smuggling of bait may be carried on. If, then, Newfoundland can destroy the French fishing industry by a denial of bait, although the French have an outpost at her very doors, how much more easily can she destroy the American fishing industry in the same waters, seeing that the Americans have no nearer base than their own shores and cannot enter Newfoundland or Canadian harbors except on the west coast, which is so remote from the Grand Banks as to be useless to them. To fish successfully they need an adjacent seaboard, where in the season from March till November they can obtain bait and gear besides hiring men

or almost one-third of the total value of the catch itself as given in the same exhibit, whereas the only persons who profit by this concession are the capitalists engaged in the industry, and the foreigners who man the ships that enable them to make their profits.

NEWFOUNDLAND TRADE.

Another phase of the question nowadays is its commercial one. Newfoundland's rapidly growing prosperity enables her to augment and diversify her industrial operations, and the growth of her foreign trade in the last four years is seen from the following figures:

	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.
From				
All countries.....	\$7,476,508	\$7,838,085	\$8,479,944	\$9,448,664
Britain	2,528,622	2,244,178	2,847,827	2,479,183
Canada	2,459,500	2,812,042	2,869,897	3,428,225
United States...	2,088,486	2,807,866	2,820,914	2,691,022
To				
All countries...	\$8,359,978	\$9,552,524	\$9,976,504	\$10,881,897
Britain	1,881,941	2,104,932	2,173,090	1,993,935
Canada	715,748	1,046,100	1,102,659	1,102,708
United States...	884,068	1,207,461	1,357,081	1,470,497

A few explanatory facts in connection with these figures may not be amiss. The steady increase in the total exports, almost \$2,000,000 in five years, is due to the new industries that have taken form within that period—lumbering, mining, whaling, etc. The British Isles have taken none of that, or, if so, have ceased to absorb her products, for the figures show comparatively little variation. Canada's increase the last three years is due almost entirely to iron ore from Belle Island required for the smelters at Sydney, Nova Scotia, and to codfish purchased by the maritime merchants to supplement the catch of their own vessels. The United States has been purchasing more largely of minerals, for hematite, pyrite, copper and baryta have been in good demand there, and so also are sealskins, which formerly had no market there, but of which two-thirds the total catch are now sold to American leather manufacturers.

As regards imports, supplies from Great Britain have increased little, and not nearly in proportion to the total advance. Canada shows a marked advance the last year, due chiefly to the fact that all the flour is now coming from that country, scarcely any being imported from the United States. Prior to last season her trade was normal, as the first and fourth years' figures make plain. The United States was manifesting remarkable activity in selling to her until the last year, when she gained scarcely any advantage, though the preceding seasons she outstripped all competitors. The loss of the flour trade is, of course, the chief cause of that.

AMERICANS COULD GET TRADE.

From the foregoing it will be seen that there is about \$6,000,000 worth of British and Canadian goods sold in Newfoundland every year, most of which trade would be transferred to the United States under reciprocity and by a closer study of the market requirements. For instance, it is said that there is no reason why the American millers could not handle the flour trade of the island as successfully as the Canadians do, or why American boots and shoes should not hold their own with those of the Dominion. On the other hand, if reciprocity were to fail and the Bond-Hay treaty lapse, Newfoundland would be able to use two weapons against the United States—a denial of fishery privileges to the New-Englanders, on the one side, which would disastrously affect the operations of the Gloucester fleet, and a discriminatory tariff against the American imports, on the other, which would deprive American manufacturers of from \$2,000,000 to \$3,000,000 worth of trade with this island. The latter might not be a serious problem for the republic, but the former would vitally concern the fishery interests of the New-England States.

Reciprocity between the United States and Newfoundland would also help the former in wresting the control of the Cuban and Porto Rican markets, which annually absorb great quantities of fish, from the Canadians, who at present enjoy a virtual monopoly in the Caribbean, though handicapped by the same adverse duty of three-quarters of a cent a pound on their shipments of fish to these centres. The increased facilities the American fishermen would enjoy in these waters under reciprocity and the opportunity they would have of utilizing much of the fish here or having their own dried on this coast, so as to suit that market, which is now the greatest drawback, would enable them to equalize conditions more than is now possible. Canada's desire in the present crisis is to have the negotiations come to naught, and then persuade Newfoundland to join with her in excluding the American fishermen from both their waters, so that she (Canada) could force on an arbitration for a price to be paid for a lease of these inshore fishing privileges, as was done in 1877, when she secured \$4,000,000 out of the \$5,000,000 awarded the British government granting her that and Newfoundland only \$1,000,000, so that Canada is now able to pay her fishermen \$160,000 a year in bounties out of the interest on that money. But Newfoundland regards herself as having been sacrificed on that occasion, and will take measures another time to prevent her rights being subordinated to Canada's, a proof of which determination is seen in her persistence in demanding ratification of the Bond-Hay treaty.

FISHING WITH A GUN

Rare Sport Along the Fresh Waters in Quebec.

PIKE ARE TIMID AS ANY BIRD

Must Be stalked with Skill and Great Judgment Used—Wall-eyed Perch and Gray Trout Are Also Frequent Victims of the Fisherman's Fowling Piece—What Indians Say.

Special Correspondence of The Washington Post.

Lachine, Canada, May 2.

It is against the law to kill fish in the province of Quebec in any other manner than with a rod and line, unless a special permit has been obtained. Just at present, law or no law, the crack of the shotgun may be heard wherever a green shelving bank leads down to waters where that fresh-water shark, the pike, darts upon its prey.

Pike are in splendid condition now, plump, and with a much cleaner skin than they will have later on.

Their flesh, which is not especially tempting in warm weather, is firm and sweet now, the result probably of a comparatively quiet existence in the deep sunken beds of weeds, where their winter has been spent.

It is more like real sport than many people imagine to shoot the fish. True, they lie as nearly as possible out of the water, their fins waving in the sunlight, a tempting mark to the gunner. But the gunner soon learns the physiological fact that fish are structurally unable to close their eyes, and that whether dozing in the sun or not, pike always cover with their vision a large zone of possible danger space.

The finest wing shot in the world would find it impossible to stop a pike when flushed by an approaching sportsman. There is a momentary splash, and by the time the ripples have asserted themselves and begun to broaden out the pike is in deep water where no human eye can follow it.

Takes Skill and Judgment.

It requires skillful stalking and rare judgment to steal upon a basking pike and to get a good killing sight upon it. Experience alone tells one how to keep just outside of the pike's vision, for there is a dead line without which its angle of vision will not strike.

The pike will generally perceive any quick motion, however, when within gunshot, and accurate snap shooting, from hip as well as shoulder, is necessary to the successful sportsman.

Boys with cartridges to spare get lots of fun out of these basking fish and occasionally make their heavy charges of No. 6 strike the water near enough to the back of the fish's head to stun it and to enable it to be captured.

It is all illegal, of course, but no one can deny that it is in its way good and not particularly unfair sport. So long as the pike are the only sufferers no one objects very strongly to the fun of the men with the guns.

Unfortunately, the dore, or wall-eyed perch, which is properly a valued table fish, though valueless as a fighter at the end of a line, also enjoys the heat of the spring sun, and is often killed along with the pike. The dore is much more easily killed than a pike, a slight shock in its vicinity turning it wrong side up in a state of insensibility for a minute or two even when not really hurt.

The gray trout, the largest of its family next to the salmon, is sometimes killed in this manner by men who have studied its habits. To get this trout in the summer season a trolling line, heavily weighted to sink it to the very depths of the deep lakes it inhabits, is necessary. It is well known as a denizen of the coolest and deepest of fresh waters.

In the spring there is a short season when these grand fish come to the surface in droves, and lie perfectly still for hours together, with their big dorsal fins and the upper half of their broad tails above water. They invariably sink to the bottom when killed, but such is their tenacity of life that when struck or stunned with a rifle bullet they will struggle long enough to enable the clever poacher to slip his net under them and secure them.

Indians Say They Can Be Herded.

The Indians say that with care the trout may be herded and driven into bays of shallow water, where shoals of them may be slaughtered at once, but to those who know the wary tuladi at home the statement appears to be of the fictitious order. But it is well known that, all law to the contrary, the Indians and half-breeds of the Northern woods depend upon their spring shooting of the trout for an agreeable change of diet.

It has long been reported that in the far North it was the custom to shoot the salmon from rocky headlands as they slowly made their way up the streams in the spring. The habit the kingly fish always have of keeping near to the sides of streams is in the favor of these salmon hunters.

It was supposed in former days that it was necessary to hold the rifle in a perfectly vertical position in order to fire accurately into the fish. But with the modern conical bullets this is not so necessary as it was when the round ball, which had a decided tendency to glance, was used.

A year or two ago an angler on the Eternity River was in need of fish food, and as the salmon, though plentiful, were not rising that season, he obtained permission from the lessee of the water to shoot a fish if he could. He fired with a small bore rifle at an angle of 60 degrees, at a distance of 40 feet, and by a lucky shot cut through the backbone of a 15-pound salmon close to the head. It must have been killed instantly.

Possibly the fact that the fish are accustomed to lie in broken water below the falls while resting through the day from their mighty progress helped to prevent

through, and shows Canada's fishery enterprise to be free from the fluctuations which have affected that of the New-England States during the same period of fourteen years.

As for Newfoundland, her fishery statistics are not so detailed as those of her larger neighbors, and it is only possible to give a rough, approximation of the situation as compared with them from the census figures of 1891 and 1901.

	1891.	1901.
Persons engaged.....	39,876	41,405
Fisheries, pounds.....	270,000,000	343,664,321
Products, value.....	\$5,346,824	\$6,907,949
Vessels engaged.....	1,294	1,637
Boats engaged.....	21,587	26,457

NEWFOUNDLAND BAIT IMPORTANT.

The food fishes of Newfoundland are the cod, herring, halibut and lobster. Of the same fishes, plus mackerel and haddock, the value of the New-England product is about \$5,000,000, and of the Canadian about \$7,000,000. The admission of Canadian fish, therefore, under a reciprocity arrangement with the Dominion would mean that the domestic product would have to meet the competition of a quantity larger than its own and more cheaply caught, as the Canadians can fish less expensively than the Americans, while the contiguity of the maritime provinces to the Eastern States would enable their catch to be put upon the American market as advantageously as that from New-England.

Canada, too, is without the bait which is really the pivotal point in the Bond-Hay treaty. Bait for deep sea fishing the New-Englanders must have, and they can only obtain it in Newfoundland, where the French and Canadians also procure it. Without her possession of this bait and the advantages it confers, Newfoundland would be of no importance in this fishery dispute, but, as it is, she is the ruling power. Fishermen of every nationality who would ply their calling on the Grand Banks must obtain bait in her waters to do so, and it is because she has denied this privilege to the French that the collapse of their industry has come to pass, despite her having St. Pierre-Miquelon as a base of operations within easy reach of these shores, whereby more or less smuggling of bait may be carried on. If, then, Newfoundland can destroy the French fishing industry by a denial of bait, although the French have an outpost at her very doors, how much more easily can she destroy the American fishing industry in the same waters, seeing that the Americans have no nearer base than their own shores and cannot enter Newfoundland or Canadian harbors except on the west coast, which is so remote from the Grand Banks as to be useless to them. To fish successfully they need an adjacent seaboard, where in the season from March till November they can obtain bait, ice, salt, stores and gear, besides hiring men and transshipping cargoes. These concessions they now enjoy under a *modus vivendi* arranged in 1888, whereby the American vessels pay a license fee of \$150 permit of register for these privileges, but it is within the power of Newfoundland to abolish this *modus vivendi* at any time and leave the Americans helpless. Nor is there any means by which they could offset these disadvantages. An international tribunal at Halifax in 1877 awarded Canada and Newfoundland \$5,000,000 for a ten year enjoyment of these privileges, and today, with the growth of the fisheries and their enhanced importance, they should be worth twice that sum for another ten years' enjoyment. France has recently admitted her belief in the value of the bait supply by her repeated efforts to secure the abrogation of the Bait act, and the attempt of the Breton fishery interests to defeat the Anglo-Gallic treaty of last year unless this was made a condition in it, so it is no exaggeration to say that in a large measure the future of the New-England deep sea fisheries depends upon the outcome of the present negotiations with Newfoundland.

AVERSE TO RECIPROCITY

Gloucester, Mass., the home of the New-England fisheries and those whose interests are bound up therewith, is naturally averse to reciprocity altogether as with Canada, and even with Newfoundland, though they recognize her retaliatory powers. They claim the fishing fleet is a naval nursery and argue that these fisherfolk would make admirable material for Uncle Sam's warships, as their seafaring work brings out their best qualities. They carry their lives in their hands, braving the wild Atlantic surges in their little cockle-shells, and they dare death in its most appalling forms as they scour the ice laden waters of Newfoundland in the worst seasons of the year. Even if unacquainted with big gun, drill or battleship mechanism, they have the essentials of seamanship—they can keep their feet in a howling gale, mount to the tops as she rolls rail under, row a boat, steer a ship, sail anything that carries canvas, and have the supreme contempt bred by long familiarity with danger for such storms as would assail a modern war craft after the tiny fabrics they have faced the elements in.

England has already shown her faith in this principle by organizing a naval reserve among the Newfoundland fishermen, who are lauded by the warship officers assigned to train them as the best quality of men for the purpose—excellent in every respect. Canada is following in her footsteps by taking measures now to form a naval militia of her own, and is obtaining three "disrated" cruisers from England in which to train them. The adoption by the United States of the same policy would appear to be justified abundantly and to warrant the closest safeguards on behalf of the New-England fishery but for the fact that the crews of the Gloucester vessels contain not 10 per cent of men of American nationality, being filled almost entirely by aliens—Scandinavians, Nova Scotians and Newfoundlanders. This is the strongest argument urged in favor of reciprocity just now, that under existing conditions the American people have to pay three-quarters of a cent a pound more for the fish they eat than they would were it on the free list, and this, at the figures given above for the quantity in the last New-England canvass, means \$3,967,122,